

The elected delegation to the national party convention shall elect the alternate delegates to the convention.

(5) Filling of Vacancies. The entire delegation to a national party convention shall fill vacancies occurring in the office of delegate or alternate delegate.

[(b)] (6) All the district delegates to [a] THE REPUBLICAN national convention shall be bound to vote for the candidate of their party for the office of President of the United States who receives the highest number of votes within their respective congressional district at the primary election, and the ex officio delegates and the at-large delegates elected by the district delegates as herein provided shall be bound to vote for the candidate who receives the highest total number of votes at the primary election in the State. All delegates shall be so bound until the candidate for President of the United States is nominated by the convention, receives less than 35 percent of the votes for nomination by the convention, or releases the delegation, or until two convention nominating ballots have been taken. [The provisions of this subsection do not apply to any delegates to Democratic national conventions.]

[(c) After the primary each Democratic presidential candidate receives a number of congressional district delegates based on the percentage of the votes attained in that district. These district delegates shall vote for this candidate on the first ballot taken at the Democratic National Convention. Each Democratic presidential candidate receives a number of at-large delegates based on the percentage of the total vote attained statewide in the Maryland primary. These at-large delegates shall vote for this candidate on the first ballot taken at the National Democratic Convention. Based on the percentage of votes tabulated as uncommitted in the primary election, a number of district delegates and at-large delegates also may go to the convention as uncommitted to any candidate.]

[(d)] (C) In the case of a political party which is not entitled to nominate candidates for public office by means of primary elections, subsections (a)[, (b), and (c)] AND (B) of this section shall not apply and in lieu thereof delegates and alternate delegates to represent the political party at its national convention shall be elected at a party convention in accordance with the lawful rules and practices of the party.

(D) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY PROVISION OF THIS ARTICLE TO THE CONTRARY, A FEE MAY NOT BE CHARGED FOR FILING A CERTIFICATE OF CANDIDACY FOR ELECTION AS DELEGATE TO A NATIONAL CONVENTION.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1983.